

## Message Text

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ACTION NODS-00

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FM USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T SECTO 27004

NODIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: MESSAGE FOR RAMSBOTHAM

FOR HABIB

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE IMMEDIATELY TO  
RAMSBOTHAM. QUOTE. THIS IS TO SUM UP OUR CONVERSATION  
OF EARLIER TODAY.

A. FIRST, AS TO THE COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL  
OF STATE OF THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT, IT IS VORSTER'S STRONG  
VIEW THAT WE SHOULD ADHERE TO THE ORIGINAL POPPROPOSAL  
AS SET DOWN IN THE EARLIER VERSION OF ANNEX C, AND  
WHICH I WENT OVER WITH HIM IN ZURICH. HE WOULD, OF COURSE,  
RETAIN THE NEW PROVISION FOR SELECTION PROCESS OF THE  
MEMBERS. BUT HE HAS TOLD US, IN A MESSAGE OF THIS  
MORNING: BEGIN INNER QUOTE. THERE WILL NOW  
BE AN IMMEDIATE BLACK MAJORITY IN THE COUNCIL OF STATE.  
IN THE ZURICH DOCUMENT THERE WOULD HAVE BEEN A WHITE  
MAJORITY IN THE COUNCIL OF STATE. THE COUNCIL OF STATE  
FUNCTIONS ONLY FOR THE INTERIM PERIOD. IT HAS ALWAYS  
BEEN ACCEPTED THAT, FOR THE NTERRIM PERIOD, THE  
WHITES WOULD STILL CONTROL THE EXECUTIVE POWER. THE  
MAIN PKRPOSE OF THE PRESENT ATTEMPT TO BRING ABOUT A  
PEACEFUL SOLUTION IS TO ACHIEVE MAJORITY RULE AT SOME  
STAGE. NOW MAJORITY RULE IS BROUGHT ABOUT IMMEDIATELY.  
WHAT THEN IS THE PURPOSE OF THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT?  
THIS IS A RADICAL CHANGE. IT IS ONE THAT WILL CAUSE  
STRIFE AND CONFLICT, THE MORE SO AS THE BLACK RHODESIAN

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OPPOSITION CONSISTS OF VARIOUS FACTIONS ANTAGONISTIC

TO ONE ANOTHER. CLOSE INNER QUOTE. I WILL ASSSUME  
THAT LONDON WILL CONFIRM THAT WE CAN PROCEED ON THIS  
BASIS SINCE WE ARE RETURNING TO A BRITISH PROPOSAL,  
AND I WILL SO ADVISE THE PRIME MINISTER BY 12:00 P.M.  
ZURICH TIME.

B. NEXT, AS TO A CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE,  
LET ME SUM UP MY VIEWS: FIRST, I THINK IT IS A PROMISING  
IDEA. SECOND, IT WOULD BE BEST IF IT IS PRECEDED BY THE  
ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE RHODESIANS THAT THEY ACCEPT  
IN PRINCIPLE THE CENTRAL POINT OF MAJORITY RULE WITHIN  
A FIXED TIME PERIOD, AS LAID DOWN BY THE PRIME MINISTER.  
THIRD, IF THIS CANNNOT BE ACHIEVED, IT MIGHT STILL BE  
WORTHYWHILE TO PROPOSE THE CONFERENCE. FOURTH IT  
WOULD BE IDEAL IF THE RHODESIANS, THE SOUTH AFRICANS  
AND THE BLACK PRESIDENTS ALL AGREE THIS WEEK TO GO  
FORWARD WITH THE OVERALL PROGRAM OF WHICH THE CON-  
FERENCE WOULD BE A KEY ELEMENT. END QUOTE.

HENRY A. KISSINGER

KISSINGER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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